

<b>DECLARATION FOR UTILITY PATENT APPLICATION (37 C.F.R. 1.63)</b>		Attorney Docket No.	<b>H422.12-0008</b>
		First Named Inventor	<b>Ralph Heinzen</b>
		<b>COMPLETE IF KNOWN</b>	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <b>Declaration Submitted with Initial Filing</b>	<b>Declaration Submitted after Initial Filing (Surcharge (37 C.F.R. 1.16(e)) Required)</b>	Application Number	
		Filing Date	<b>Herewith</b>
		Group Art Unit	
		Examiner Name	

As a below named inventor, I hereby declare that my residence, post office address, and citizenship are as stated below.

I believe I am the original, first and sole inventor (if only one name is listed below) or an original, first and joint inventor (if plural names are listed below) of the subject matter which is claimed and for which a patent is sought on the invention entitled:  
**SELF MONITORING STATIC SEAL WITH OPTICAL CONDUCTOR**

the specification of which:

is attached hereto OR

was filed on as United States Application Number or PCT International Application Number and was amended on (if applicable).

I hereby state that I have reviewed and understand the contents of the above identified specification, including the claims, as amended by any amendment specifically referred to above.

I acknowledge the duty to disclose information which is material to patentability as defined in 37 C.F.R. 1.56.

I hereby claim foreign priority benefits under 35 U.S.C. 119(a)-(d) or 365(b) of any foreign application(s) for patent or inventor's certificate, or 365(a) of any PCT international application which designated at least one country other than the United States of America, listed below and have also identified below, by checking the box, any foreign application for patent or inventor's certificate, or of any PCT international application having a filing date before that of the application on which priority is claimed.

Prior Foreign Application Number(s)	Country	Foreign Filing Date (MM/DD/YYYY)	Certified Copy Attached? Yes      No

I hereby claim the benefit under 35 U.S.C. 119(e) of any United States provisional application(s) listed below.

Application Number(s)	Filing Date (MM/DD/YYYY)

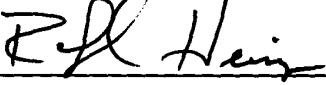
I hereby claim the benefit under 35 U.S.C. 120 of any United States application(s), or 365(c) of any PCT international application designating the United States of America, listed below and, insofar as the subject matter of each of the claims of this application is not disclosed in the prior United States or PCT international application in the manner provided by the first paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112, I acknowledge the duty to disclose information which is material to patentability as defined in 37 C.F.R. 1.56 which became available between the filing date of the prior application and the national or PCT international filing date of this application.

U.S. Parent Application or PCT Parent Number	Parent Filing Date (MM/DD/YYYY)	Parent Patent Number (if applicable)
09/089,580	June 3, 1998	
09/090/056	June 3, 1998	

DIRECT ALL CORRESPONDENCE TO:

Customer Number	00164
Attention	Jeffrey D. Shewchuk
Telephone	(612) 339-1863
Fax	(612) 339-6580

I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under 18 U.S.C. 1001 and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.

Sole or First Inventor:		
Given Name (First and middle (if any))	Family Name or Surname	
Ralph	Heinzen	
Inventor's signature	 Date: 6/20/03	
Residence	Garrison, North Dakota	Citizenship: U.S.A.
Mailing Address	Box 728	
City, State, Country	Garrison, North Dakota 58540 U.S.A.	

# POWER OF ATTORNEY

Attorney Docket No.

H422.12-0008

First Named Inventor : Ralph Heinzen

Title : SELF MONITORING STATIC SEAL WITH OPTICAL CONDUCTOR

In the patent application:

X identified above (and submitted to the Patent and Trademark Office herewith).

- filed on \_\_\_\_\_ as Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.

I appoint the attorneys and agents associated with Customer Number 00164 to prosecute the patent application identified above and to transact all business in the Patent and Trademark Office connected therewith, including full power of association, substitution and revocation.

I ratify all prior actions taken by Kinney & Lange, P.A. or the attorneys and agents mentioned above in connection with the prosecution of the above-mentioned patent application.

I authorize Kinney & Lange, P.A. to mark the appropriate space above and to insert the filing date and application number of the application, as appropriate.

I authorize the attorneys and agents named herein to accept and follow instructions from \_\_\_\_\_ as to any action to be taken in the Patent and Trademark Office regarding this application without direct communication between the attorneys and agents and the undersigned. In the event of a change in the persons from whom instructions may be taken, the attorneys and agents named herein will be so notified by the undersigned.

Please address all correspondence and telephone calls to Customer Number 00164, attention Jeffrey D. Shewchuk, Telephone (612) 339-1863, Fax (612) 339-6580.

Signature:

  
Ralph Heinzen

Dated: 6/20/03

**STATEMENT OF  
SMALL ENTITY STATUS  
(INDEPENDENT INVENTOR)**

Attorney Docket No.

H422.12-0008

First Named Inventor : Ralph Heinzen

Title : SELF MONITORING STATIC SEAL WITH OPTICAL CONDUCTOR

With respect to the invention described in:

the application filed herewith:  
 Application No. \_\_\_\_\_, filed \_\_\_\_\_:  
 Patent No. \_\_\_\_\_, issued \_\_\_\_\_:

**I. STATEMENT OF QUALIFICATION AS A SMALL ENTITY**

I am a below named independent inventor and I qualify as an independent inventor as defined in 37 C.F.R. 1.9(c) for purposes of paying reduced fees under 35 U.S.C. 41(a) and (b).

**II. STATEMENT OF OWNERSHIP**

Rights under contract or law remain with me. If the rights held are not exclusive, each individual, concern or organization having rights to the invention is listed below and no rights to the invention are held by any person who could not be classified as (1) an independent inventor under 37 C.F.R. 1.9(c) if that person had made the invention, (2) a small business concern under 37 C.F.R. 1.9(d) or (3) a non-profit organization under 37 C.F.R. 1.9(e).

There is no such person, concern or organization.  
 The person(s), concern(s) or organization(s) is listed below:

FULL NAME

ADDRESS

CITY, STATE, ZIP

RALPH N. HEINZEN  
P.O. Box 728  
Garrison, ND 58540

Individual  
 Small Business Concern  
 Non-Profit Organization

**III. ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF DUTY TO NOTIFY PTO OF STATUS CHANGE**

I acknowledge the duty to file, in this application or patent, notification of any change resulting in loss of entitlement to small entity status pursuant to 37 C.F.R. 1.28(b).

**IV. SIGNATURE**

Signature:

Ralph Heinzen

Date:

6/20/03

# **IMPORTANT NOTICE REGARDING PUBLICATION OF PATENT APPLICATION**

Attorney Docket No.

H422.12-0008

TO: PERSON MAKING DECISIONS RELATED TO FILING OF APPLICATION

Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.211, U.S. nonprovisional patent applications filed on or after November 29, 2000 will be published after 18 months from the earliest filing date from which priority is claimed, unless the application is filed with a proper nonpublication request. A nonpublication request must include a certification that the invention disclosed in the application has not been and will not be the subject of an application filed in another country, or internationally under a multilateral agreement (such as the Patent Cooperation Treaty (PCT)), that requires publication 18 months after filing. If you plan to file a foreign or PCT patent application on this invention, the application must be allowed to publish in the United States.

As mentioned above, if you do not plan to file a foreign or PCT application on this invention, you may file a nonpublication request at the same time a patent application is filed. Should you later decide that you would like the application to be published, or that you would like to file a foreign or PCT application on this invention, a request to rescind the nonpublication request may be filed to allow the application to be published.

You should also consider potential advantages of allowing the patent application to be published. Damages may be available in certain instances for infringing acts performed by others after publication of the application but before grant of a patent. Therefore, if you have reason to believe that infringement of the patent is likely to occur before the patent is granted, it may be advantageous to allow the application to be published, or even to request early publication of the application (which must be accompanied by a \$300 publication fee).

If the application is published, a \$300 publication fee will be assessed when the patent is allowed, along with the customary issue fee.

**PLEASE CHECK THE APPROPRIATE BOX BELOW TO INDICATE YOUR INSTRUCTIONS AS TO PUBLICATION OF THIS APPLICATION:**

THE APPLICATION SHOULD BE ALLOWED TO PUBLISH IN THE UNITED STATES.

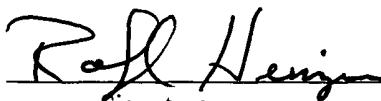
This selection is appropriate if:

You wish for the application to be published; or

You plan to file a foreign or PCT application on this invention.

THE APPLICATION SHOULD NOT BE ALLOWED TO PUBLISH IN THE UNITED STATES. THEREFORE, PLEASE FILE A NONPUBLICATION REQUEST WITH THE APPLICATION.

This selection is **only** appropriate if you do **not** plan to file a foreign or PCT application on this invention.

  
Signature

6/20/03  
Date

**This form (with a checkmark and signature indicating your instructions) should be returned to us with the patent application and any documents for filing with the application. If we do not receive this form back from you, the application will be published by default. If you have any questions about the issues associated with publication of patent applications in the United States, please do not hesitate to contact me.**